THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1899.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DATLY, per Month. DAILY, per Year. B. NDAY, per Year. DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, per M ... to Postage to foreign countries a likely Panne-Rica inc No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and

If our friends who from us with manuscripts for publication with to have rejected inflores returned, they must in all cases send aramps for that purpose,

The Metropolitan Railroad Company at Albany

Rios us No. 19, Boulevard des Capue nes

THE SUN'S Albany despatch of vesterday, explaining the Senate's vote upon what known as the Ford amendment of the Ford till concerning Amsterdam avenue, of which the purport is to put the Third Avenue Raisroad Company at the mercy of the Metropolitan company for expulsion from the street, disclosed this remarkable situation:

A number of the more pronunent Reputslican Senators, including Bloodys, KRUM, ELLSWORTH, STRANAHAS and WHITE, bave joined in perpetrating this outrage because Senator Form informs them that:

L. A law giving to the Third Avenue company the right either to intering or to occupy the Metropolitan company's track, in accordance with the original Ford bill, would not be agreed to by the Metropol-

II. No bill to accomplish the Am-terdam avenue people's wish to diminish the name ber of tracks can be passed without the consent of the Metropolitan company.

The Metropolitan company not consenting to the plan of consolidating the four support of a Federal Government will press tracks into two love letting the Third avenue. company run its cars on the Metropolitan tracks relief for the Amsterdam avenue people is unattainable, unless the Third Avenue company is sucrificed to the Met-

Sothe Metropolitan railroad of New York city controls the Albany Legislature, even for such an act of piracy as that contem plated by the Ford amendment!

We understand that the good people of Amsterdam avenue chuckled at the discovery that so powerful an influence as the Metropolitan company was with them in their fight to protect their interests. They cannot now misunderstand the situation. All that they hold important in the case is no more to the Metropolitan company than a railroad spike.

The Metropolitan company is using the fears and the agitation of the Amsterdam avenue people, their political power, not to mention their lawyers and their legislative champion, Mr. FORD, to confiscate a rival's property in the broad light of day and a certain lot of timorous Senators, as sisted by another group, who, if not timorous, are at least faithful to the purposes they esponse, are helping on the outrage.

We most emphatically protest against this transaction. And we warn the Republican Senators mentioned, whose votes put their party's stamp upon any measure they approve, that the Republican party cannot afford to stand for this barefaced spoliation of one man for another's benefit. Better brave

the Metropolitan company in the extension of its power from the city of New York to Albany than exhibit the Republican party of the Empire State as a procurable be trayer of private rights or a cowed agent of injustice.

More Light on the Proposed Federa tion of Australia.

The Melbourne and Sydney newspapers furnish detailed information regarding the BRVAN and 16 to 1 in 1896; if its leaders conclusions reached in the conference of Australian Premiers recently held in the first named city. It appears that Queensland and West. Australia were represented. as well as New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania, and that a federal system is now likely to be adopted by at least five colonies. We note the principal changes made in the original Commonwealth bill, because their scope character and probable effect were imperfectly described in the despatches received by cable,

The difficulties which the conference of Premiers undertook to surmount were these: First, the proposed scheme of federation, though it obtained a majority in New South Wales, had not secured the number of votes (80,000) prescribed by statute in that colony. Secondly, Queens land had stood aloof hitherto from the federative movement, for the reason, that the interests of North Queensland and South Queensland are by no means identical, and the inhabitants of the two sections thought that a division of the colony should precede acceptance of federation. The Premier of Queensland was also disposed to favor some of the amendments recommended by the New South Wales Assembly. Now let us see what steps were taken to conciliate

these outstanding colonies.

It was agreed that, when the two Houses of the Federal Parliament should fail to concur in a legislative project, and should, thereupon, meet in joint session, a bare majority, instead of a three-lifths majority, should decide the matter in dispute. This amendment is obviously a concession on the part of thinly settled colonies to New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria, which will have a relatively large number of members in the lower house of the Federal Parliament, where representation is to be proportioned to population. In the Federal Senate each colony is to have the same number of members, namely, six, but the sectional dissensions of Queensland were recognized by a provision that, in that colony, Senators shall be chosen not on a State ticket, but by districts. Another concession made to New South Wales, and, indirectly, to Queensland, which lies still further north, was the stipulation that the Federal capital shall be in New South Wales, but at least 100 miles from Sydney, The American presedent is followed in provision that the territory occupied by the Federal capital shall be ceded by New South Wales to the federation, and shall be organized and governed as a federal district. Futil, inwever, the Government buildings in the new capittal are ready for occupation, the Poteral Parl ament is to meet at Mc Lemma, just us our Congress mot at Philadelphia until it

could be transferred to Washington. One of the demands put forward most who has sought Tammany votes since it earnestly by the New South Wales Assem- | was adopted has dured to oppose it. Durbly that, namely, for the removal of the ling the campaign of last year no Demo-Braddon" ciruse from the Commonwealth | cratic candidate for State office or for Conbill, was rejected, though not alsolutely, gress, and no Democratic speaker through-

name from Sir EDWARD BRADDON, the Tasmanian Premier, and as it is to form a part of the Australian Constitution for a decade, at all events, it deserves to be carefully examine i. It provides that all customs and excise duties in the federated colonies shall be collected by the Federal Government, but that only one-quarter of the proceeds shall be retained for Federal purposes, the remaining three-quarters being returned to the constituent States, in the ratio of their contributions.

the adoption of a Federal Constitution will

require the income from tariff dues to be

materially increased. On the assumption

that the tariff levied by the Federal Parila-

that New South Wales, where customs

taxation is, at present, less burdensome

than in any other Australian colony,

would have to raise her tariff returns from

the present figure, \$7,500,000, to \$15,-

000,000. It would be a mistake, however,

to infer that the difference, \$7,500,000,

would represent the cost of federation to

New South Wales. There would be given

clause, three-fourths of the tariff revenue

raised within its borders, that is to say, \$11,-

250,000, so that the net cost of federation

to New South Wales would be only \$3,750,-

000. The other \$3,750,000, representing

a molety of the excess over the present

tariff revenue, can be used, of course, to

diminish other forms of colonial taxation.

It is upon the colonies, in which there is

already a high protective tariff, that the

All the Premiers but one express confi-

dence in the acceptance of the amended

Constitution by their respective colonies.

Mr. Retty of New South Wales, who is be-

lieved to have opposed, secretly, the orig-

inal Commonwealth bill, and who nearly

lost thereby his office of Premier, is an en-

thusiastic advocate of the revised Constitu-

heartily favors the new federative project,

and has agreed to submit it to the people of

Queensland, after it has been adopted in

New South Wales. The Premiers of Victo-

ria, Tasmania, South Australia and West

Australia are equally outspoken in their

approval of the bill, and there seems to be

no doubt that all of these four colonies, ex-

cept the last, will ratify, at the ballot box,

the proposed Federal organic law. At last,

therefore, the Australian federative move-

ment, which began in 1889, seems to have

Mr. Bryan and Tammany.

JERRY SIMPSON of Kansas thinks that

Mr. BRYAN made "a serious mistake" in

antagonizing Tammany," for, he says,

Tammany runs the Eastern Democracy

and controls thousands of votes." Mr.

BRYAN, however, knows Tammany better

than does the Kansas Populist, and he

made no mistake, but in repudiating its

forthcoming dinner as a Democratic dem-

onstration exhibited rather his political

The only votes Tammany "controls" are

in this city, and those it controls only as

the regular Democratic organization in

New York, or as the servant of the candi-

date of the National Democratic Convention

in an election for President. Even if some

of the Tammany leaders are gold men,

their following almost unanimously are en-

thusiastic supporters of Mr. BRYAN and the

Chicago platform. Practically the whole

had refused to accept and support him on

that platform they would have had to go

outside of the Tammany ranks to get any

The vote for Mr. BRYAN in New York in

1896 was 135,624, a total which included

the whole of the "thousands of votes" Tam-

many "controls." They were held together

by Mr. BRYAN and Tammany was simply

his agent. It could have delivered them to

no one else in that campaign, and it can

deliver them to no one else next year than

the candidate of the Democratic National

Convention. The revolting ticket of PAL-

MER and BUCKNER received only 5,541 votes,

and the number would have been very little

greater if Tammany had repudiated the

regular Democratic ticket and supported

that bolt. It is safe to say that there

were included in the little Palmer and

Buckner crowd about all the Tammany

support which could have been turned to

it under any circumstances. Mr. PERRY

BELMONT, the President of the Tammany

club, was one of them, as he has acknowl-

edged in his letter replying to Mr. BRYAN'S

declination of the invitation to attend the

dinner of that club, and with him, it may

be assumed, were all of the Tammany fol-

lowing who could be gathered against

BRYAN. Such of the Democratic vote as

Mr. BRYAN knew very well, therefore,

votes" when he refused to assist the

his nomination in 1900, but rather

won their applause for his consistency

and self-respect. If Mr. BRYAN is nomi-

port him. The "thousands of votes" which

JERRY SIMPSON speaks of as "controlled

by Tammany control it rather than it them.

They are Democratic votes, and are only

deliverable by it as a Democratic organiza-

tion which makes itself regular by sup-

porting the party platform and ticket as

No other part of the Democracy is now

core enthusiastic in its devotion to the

present standard of Democratic political

faith, the Chicago platform, than is the

Tanimany Democracy of New York, Mr.

RICHARD CROKER would be swept from the

Tammany leadership if he should venture

to "antagonize" it. Strong as he is

in that machine he would become

powerless the moment he undertook

to "antagonize" Mr. Bayan as the Na-

tional Democratic candidate. He dares

Chicago pattern. No candidate for office

made by the National Convention.

side of the influence of Tammany.

"controlled" by Tammany went for

tion. The Premier of Queensland, also,

most heavily.

success in sight.

sagacity.

would be uniform, it is computed

The political spirit and purpose represented by Mr. BRYAN are detestable, but courage and consistency are deserving of the respect they are sure to win from the people. A more utterly contemptible campaign than that conducted by the Democratic party in this State last year under the It is estimated that the cost of the Federal influence of Tammany has never occurred in the history of our politics, and Mr. BRYAN, Administration will be about ten million in denouncing such pusilianimity in politics, dollars a year. If this revenue is to be seis exhibiting both dignity of character and cured from one-quarter of the tariff dues, it is manifest that the latter must reach \$40,political sagacity. 000,000. The present revenue accruing from customs and excise and spent for lo-The Sparrow and the Law. cal administration in the five Australian colonies, together with Tasmania, does not

of political doctrine.

pelied him to declare himself as the enemy

of the authoritative Democratic standard

The war between the Boston sparrowkillers and sparrow-savers moves a Brookmuch exceed \$32,500,000. It follows that, lyn correspondent to send us this inquiry: unless local administrations are to suffer

To THE FORTON OF THE SUR-SIT A few years ago a prominent lawyer of this club called my after tion to a New York law making it a misdemeanor to feed an English sparrow, and I found it. I do not recall the title of the act, but, a- I remember, it was signed by Governor David B. Hill. Will you find this law and refer to it

BROOKLYS CLUB, March 21. The provision in question will be found in the Revised Statutes of New York, vol. III., p. 2370, eighth edition. Section 6, as amended in 1887, of chapter 127 of the Laws of 1886, "an act for the preservation of song and wild birds," reads in part:

"The English or European house sparrow Pusse domestical is not included among the birds pro-tected by this art, and it shall be considered a misback to that colony, under the Braddon demeanor to intentionally give food or shelter to the same.

A New York person intentionally feeding or sheltering an English sparrow is, in fact, 'guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in the county jail or penitentiary, for not less than five or more than thirty days, or to laid a fine of not less than ten or more than fifty dollars, or both, at the discretion of the Court." Such is the penalty imposed by section 7 upon violators of the act.

We have not heard that any friends of the English sparrow, if he has any have been convicted of giving him food and comfort.

The English sparrow has been outlawed by the New York Legislature. Some of his Boston friends want to have a referendum for the purpose of deciding what shall be done with him in Boston. It is the general belief, and the ornithologists seem to support it, that he is a nuisance, who passes a large part of his time in driving decent birds away. In New York it is a misdemeanor to assist him. In Boston there are excellent persons who seem willing to make it a misdemeanor to get rid of him, although there is, we believe, a law for his extermination. He is an able chap, and keeps the legislators busy.

The British Navy.

The annual statement of the First Lord of the Admiralty, made to the British Parliament a few days ago, is, as usual, an elaborate and instructive document. The British fiscal year begins April 1, or three months earlier than ours, and as the Admiralty statement comes in March it substantially covers the financial year, while the new naval legislation follows soon.

The estimates for the coming year are \$132,972,500, an increase of \$14,080,500 over the year new ending; the shipbuilding increase alone is \$10,080,000. For the coming year also a force of 110.640 officers and men is proposed, including the marines and coast guard, an increase of 4,250 over the present authorization, which was 6,340 above that of the year before. The present authorized number of the naval reserve is 25,800, and an increase of 1,000 in that

body is proposed for the coming year. Turning to the battleships, we find that of the Canopus class, six in number, the Ocean and Canopus will be ready for trial about next June, the Goliath follows about three months later, the Albion and Glory before April of next year, and the Vengeance in July, 1900. Of the Formidable class, also six in number, two, the Formidable and Irresistible, were launched last year, while the Implacable was to be launched this month; the London was begun last December and the Venerable on Jan. 2, while the Bulwark is about to follow. Between these two classes comes a third. the Duncan class, armed like the Formidable type, but faster and with thinner armor. Of these newest of the British bat-

tleships we append the chief features : Length between perpendiculars, 405 for t. breadth atreme, 75 feet 6 inches; mean draught, 26 feet 6 inches; displacement, 14,000 tone; speed with natural draught, 19 knots: indicated horse power 18,000. Armament-Four 12-inch breechloading guns in two barbettes, twelve d-inch quick-firing in casemates, twelve 12-pounders, six 8-pounders, four torpedo tubes. Vertical side armer seven inches thick, gradually reduced to the low. The barbettes have 11-inch armor and the casemates finch.

Belleville boilers, with economizers, are to be used, and the high speed of nineteen knots on an eight hours' trial, with natural draught, exceeds that of any existing British battleships. The bunker capacity of 2,000 tons is like that of the Majestic class. | The Vast Space Swept by That Planet and but the armor and the guns are better. A new 12-inch wire gun is now under trial.

Of the eight first-class cruisers of the Dia went against 16 to 1 is almost wholly outdem class, two, the Diadem and Niobe, are in commission, the Europa is in reserve, the Andromeda, Argonaut and Ariadne have that he did not "autagonize Tammany finished their steam trials and the Amphitrite will soon have hers, while the Sparti scheme of Mr. PERRY BELMONT to prevent ate is getting on well at Pembroke. The Diadem ran from Gibraltar to the Nore in strengthened their attachment to him and sixty-nine hours at a speed of 19.27 knots. Six armored cruisers of the Cressy class are building by contract. Four large armored nated by the Democratic National Concruisers, known as the Drake class, are also vention next year, as now seems building, three under contract and the nust probable, Tammany is sure to supfourth at Pembroke. We note these features of this new class:

Length between perpendiculars, 500 feet; breadth extreme, 71 feet; mean draught, 26 feet; displace-ment, 14,100 tons; speed (with natural draught), 23 knots; indicated horse power, 20,000. Armament Two 9.2-inch guns with armored shields, sixteer 6-inch quick-firing guns in casemates, fourteen 12 pounders, three 3-pounders, two torpedo tabes. Ve cal side armor, about six inches thick, is associated with strong sicel decks, as in the Canopus and Creasy classes. The steel hul's will be unsheathed Bellevil e boilers, with economizers, will be fitted. The speed of 23 knots is to be maintained for eight bours on the contractors' trials, with natural draugh in the stekeholds. For continuous steaming at sea in smooth water 21 knots should be maintained The coal bunker capacity will be 2,500 t ns. and 1,250 tons are to be carried at the speed trials.

Two other first-class cruisers are to be of 9,800 tons displacement, 22,000 horse power and a natural draught speed of 23 knots. Their length will be 440 feet, exnot now and never has carred to oppose the | treme breadth 66, and mean draught 24% Their main batteries will be fourteen 6-inch gains, four of them in turrets and ten in case mates, and the vertical side armor will be 4-inch. The coal bunker capacity will be 1,600 tons. The boilers will be Belleville and the hulls unsheathed. Speeds of 23 the right to repeal or after it after the out the canvass dared to assail it. Mr. knots under natural draught, as the average lapse of ten years being given to the Fed- PERRY BELMONT was gagged, along with of eight hours' trials of British armored the list may surpass that of Herschel.

eral Parliament. This clause derives its the rest of its opponents, and he would cruisers, show sdvances. New 9.2-inch have remained gagged if Mr. BRYAN had not wire guns will be provided for the Cressy forced his mouth open recently and comand Drake classes.

As to smaller cruisers, it is enough to note that the Furious and Vindictive of the Arrogant class are ready and the Gladiator has had her trials; that three of the Hermes class will be ready during 1899; that the Proserpine, Pactolus and Pegasus, of the Pelorus type, are already in commission, while the Psyche, Pomone, Perseus and Prometheus will follow in 1899 and the remaining two soon after them; that six sloops of the Condor class are in hand and the gunboats of the Dwarf class approaching completion.

Of the forty-two torpedo-boat destroyers of 26 to 27 knots speed, all but two made their trials successfully, and these two will be ready the coming summer; of the fifty 30-knot boats thirty-one have been delivered, with one to follow, while eighteen are well advanced. It is interesting to learn that four experimental vessels will be of still higher speeds, two of them being under trial, while a third is a steam-turbine craft and the fourth is not yet begun.

During the coming fiscal year it is proposed to begin two new battleships, of a design not yet determined, two more 9,800ton armored cruisers, three smaller cruisers and two sloops something like the Phonix and Algerine, of moderate draught.

Baseball.

A few weeks ago the National League of Baseball Clubs took a reactionary step in the matter of maintaining order during the time of play. They diminished the powers of the Board of Discipline and so signified that, as between President BRUSH of Cincinnati, who fined his players when they violated the rule against wrangling with the umpire, and Mr. Young, the President of the League, who last year made no effort to have umpires enforce the rules against rowdyism, they were with Young. Mr. FREDERICK K. STEARNS of Detroit has re signed from the Board of Discipline, and vesterday's Sun quoted him to this effect:

"If the League wants riot and disorder, why don't the club owners come out openly and say so? With few exceptions the men who are now in control of baseball are absolutely devoid of true sportsmanship. I do not care to be identified with them, and

The League clubs, even in the most advanced stages of Freedmanism, won't pronounce "openly" in favor of disorder, or issue formal licenses to their players to dispute the umpire's decisions. They will say speciously, after the manner of newspapers like the Boston Herald, that resistance to the umpire's decision is "human nature" and should be treated "leniently" and is not often "dangerous" anyway.

As a matter of fact, however, the game of baseball will be ruled on its playgrounds by the umpire or the players. They cannot both rule. If the umpire controls, there will be order; it isn't necessary to describe the game which professional players would conduct without a referee.

Burrowing of the Moles.

The increase in the cost of the Commissioners of Accounts, the maintenance of whose department is entailing this year a total expenditure of \$160,000, where originally \$25,000 was deemed reasonable, is very noticeable.

Originally and properly, the scrutiny of department accounts devolved upon the Comptroller's office. Afterward it was believed that independent accountants or auditors, free from control by the Comptroller, would be a safeguard against errors or delinquencies in the Comptroller's office, so the Commissioners of Accounts were established. Out of the original legislation there have come the present Commissioners and their employees, costing \$160,000 instead of \$25,000, and giving employment to a number of "examiners" who are nominated by such of the heads of municipal depart

ments as are at the same time district leaders. The scrutiny of their official doings is. therefore, put virtually within the control of their own appointees, a condition of affairs never contemplated when the examination of such accounts was taken out of the hands of the appointees of the Comptroller. For no vigilant and faithful Comptroller would appoint an "examiner" for a department at the suggestion of a head of it, or the son of one of the heads of department as "examiner" either.

The whole purpose of the law creating this auditing department has been frustrated, and the Commissioners of Accounts. the ostensible heads of the department, are without power to rectify the abuse, because their own tenure is on sufferance, at the caprice of the Mayor who appointed the chiefs of department whose operations they are to examine.

The passage of the police bills in the Assembly vesterday is a welcome sign that the Republican party is again in control of the Legislature.

THE SATURNIAN SYSTEM.

Its Nine Known Satellites.

From the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. The announcement from Harvard observatory of a ninth satellite of Saturn is a matter of great interest in astronomical circles. The new satellite was discovered by means of photography at Arequipa, Peru. This is the second satellite of Saturn discovered by asconomers of Harvard observatory, the elder Bond having found the eighth in number and he sevent in distance from the planet in September, 1848. The seventh in distance is small and is visible only in the large tele-

Inpetus was the outermost satellite up to the time of the discovery at Arequipa, and is about as large as the least of Jupiter's satellites. The span of the crbit of Inpetus is about 4,500,000 miles, the distance of the satellite from the planet's centre being about 2,250,000 miles. It was stated in our recent despatch from Cambridge that the new satellite is three and a half imes the distance of Inpetus, or approximately .875,000 miles. The span of the orbit is about 15.750,000 miles, and the time of revolution about seventeen months. Before the discovery of the ninth satellite the Saturnian system was second only to the solar system in magnitude. The ninth satellite greatly increases the proportions of the Saturnian system.

It is possible that some of the satellites of Saturn and of Jupiter are habitable, Saturn's satellites, the sixth in distance is nearly as large as the planet Mercury. Saturn's lighting capacity is immense, to say nothing of the light each satellite receives from the sun. The new satellite of Saturn is of the fifteen and one-half magnitude. It is so faint that it might have remained undiscovered but for the photographic plate. This discovery has fully justified the confidence of the late Alvan Clark in the Bruce photographic telescope,

In the discovery of satellites, as in nebulæ, American astronomers are leading their European brethren. Americans have discovered two satellites of Mars, the fifth satellite of Jupiter, two satellites of Saturn and more than 1,000 new nebuile. Swift alone has discovered more than 1,000, and, if his life be prolonged,

THE TAX DODGER'S PARADISE. New Jersey's New Bill to Gather in New York Trust Funds.

TRENTON, N. J., March 22 .- A bill now pend ing in the Senate and likely to pass is designed to further increase the State's income from corporations. It is for the regulation of trust companies. New York trust companies are compelled to pay a tax on trust funds deposited with them. In the bill pending there is no such provision, and if it becomes a law it is expected that the New York companies will organize New Jersey branches and keep their trust funds in the branch institutions in order to escape the tax imposed in New York. New Jersey will benefit by the tax to be received the companies. This tax will from be at local rates in the municipalities where they may be established, on their capital stock and accumulated surplus. The trust funds of New Jersey people will only be

trust funds of New Jersey people will only be reachable for taxing purposes at the homes of the owners and they will essape taxation entirely, as the local assessors will have no information concerning them except through voluntary returns. Most of the money held in trust will naturally belong to non-residents, and they will be in a position to dodge their taxes without trouble.

The bilis carrying the appropriations to run the Government of New Jersey for the next year made their appearance to-day. They foot up \$2.184.417.72. If the deficiency is as great in 1180 as it is this year another half million dollars will have to be added to the amount. Among what are known as extraordinary expenditures provided for, the money for which is immediately available, are \$230,000 for the new reformatory at Rahway, \$47,615 for improvements at the Morris Plains Hospital for the Insane and about \$80,000 to restore ordinance, equipment, and material to the National Guard.

In executive session the Senate confirmed

Guard.

In executive session the Senate confirmed the nomination of Joseph H Gaskill as Judge of the Burlington County Court. The House of the Burlington County Court. The House killed the bill to repeal the Dunn act with reference to the admission of law students to the bar and also the bill to annex the towns of Harrison, Kearny, and East Newark to the county of Essex.

The Faith of a Converted Hindoo. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Excuse ie, as a visitor to your country, in writing to thank you for your remarks under "Preaching Without Religious Faith." I am converted from Hindoolsm; the Brahmanic blood runs through my veins. Nothing could have brought me to the Lord Jesus Christ but two things-1) the consciousness of my guilt; (2) that Christ had atoned for me. The light of revelation in my soul warned me of a hell; since then the Scriptures have affirmed it, and, with the acceptance of Jesus, the burden has gone. I am a missionary now, and have been in the work since 1883.

After spending ten years between Great Britain, Europe, India and Ceylon, I solemnly say that I have not found any scheme, plan or imusement which can or will ever come up to the power of the gospel of Christ. I have just come to visit this country for the first time. to study American methods of Christian work. and to find out how far the people who send us missionaries believe in Christ and the Bible for themselves. The opinions and remarks of the clergymen you comment upon make me feel that I am not safe among such theologians. The gospel has an eternal charm for me, a ragan convert. I find elevating pleasures and joys in it. It has transformed me. I believe in the inspiration of God's Word, permanent and unchangeable; otherwise man has no permanent standard to appeal to. I feel I nust give this testimony in these days of loose interpretations of the Scriptures. I am forgiven much, so I wish to say a word for Him who has made me what I am.

P. N. CHARRABURTTY. NEW YORK, March 21.

Orange Growers Invited to Porto Rico.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I notice several communications in The Sun on the subject of orange growing. Having had a practical experience in orange growing in lorida, and having lived here since last September, I can, after a thorough investigation the possibilities of that industry, unhesitatingly advise the orange growers of Florida and others who are seeking a profitable business to engage in orange culture in Porto

So far as I have been able to ascertain, the orange has no enemy, and the quality, productiveness and early fruiting of the orange tree here are far ahead of Fiorida or California, and now that we have good transportation facilities. the cost of sending them to market would be less than from Tampa to Chicago. I have never enten finer oranges than I have eaten here, and the land around Mayaguez is pecullarly adapted to their growth

The tariff, of course, will be taken off long before the trees come into bearing. Lands are reasonable in price, labor is cheap and abundant; in fact, the cost of bringing a grove into bearing is much less than in Florida. I advise Porto lice rather than Cuba, because the climate is healthier and pleasanter. I have never seen the thermometer above 10°: indeed, I consider the climate much pleasanter than that of Florida. The man who first starts a nursery of orange trees here may reasonably expect to make a fortune. There is no stock for sale.

MAYAGUEZ, PORTO RICO, MATCH 13. ore the trees come into be MAYAQUEZ, Porto Rico, March 13.

Dr. Hillis's Quinodoxy.

TOTHE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your editorial of Tuesday, the 21st, on "Preaching Without Religious Faith," your judgment of the Rev. Dr. Hillis seems to have been made up with singular hastiness It is evidently based upon a more fragmentary re-port of Dr. Hillis's sermon. You say editorially that his sermon " was devoted to extelling Christ without any reference to the Atonement."

The Brooklyn Ecgle's stenographic report of the

sermon has at least this reference to the Atonement "For the common people, Christ's cross and His stoning sacrifice opened up a way to happiness, progress, social strength, prosperity and peace." With great power Dr. Hillis quoted from memory these words from Drummond's "Creed:"

"The recoverableness of man at his worst is the gift of Christ; the forgiveness of sins comes by Christs cross; the power to set the heart right is Christ's grant; the hope of immorfality springs from Christ's grant; the hope of immorfality springs from Christ's grave; religiou means a personal runst in tool, a personal debt to Christ, a personal dedication to this cause. These, brought about how you will are supreme things to aim at, supreme loss if they are missed.

Again, you say Dr. Hillis preached without "any doctrine which raises Him (Christ) to a divine or supernatural elevation." The fact is that Christ's divinity is assumed by Dr. Hillis and underlies his sermon in simple and absolute faith. He takes it ar much for granted as the very being of God himself. That profound belief in the divinity of Jesus Christ both Dr. Hillis and his people in Plymouth Church hold in such absolute faith that the conventional

doctrinal statement of it seems superfluous. Again you say that "nowhere in his sermon was there any evidence of the positive faith which gave the impulse to Christianity.

The "impulse to Christianity" was the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the consequent revelation of the life immortal. This was the very thought th which Dr. Hillis closed his sermon, when he said that through Christ "the path of death became a path of living light. Siriking hands with Jesus Christ, the little child, the sage, the statesman and the seer, alike went joyously toward death, and disappearing passed on into an immortal summer." HORACE PORTER,

Assistant Pastor Plymouth Church.

A Startling Assertion About Our Schools. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There is something wrong with your educational system here. It is an undertable fact that a 10-year-old boy educated a public school in England. Scotland or Canada is further advanced and infinitely better informed in arithmetic, history, geography and other useful and necessary branches than is a boy of is here. I would not care to draw a hornets' nest about cars by suggesting that the solid mentality of children in these countries is better fitted to receive and assimilate knowledge than is the case with American children. I simply describe a fact which may interest physiologists or educators, WOODHAVES, L. I., March 22. James Henderson

In Harper's Magazine for April begins Mr. Ma riott Watson's Fomance, "The Princess Nemia," which Mr. de Thuistrup illustrates. Admiral Beards. lee describes the official trial of the now famous battieship Oregon; Senator Lodge continues his account of our war with Spain, and "Bos'n's Mate" Peter Keller of the Gloucester describes the rescue of Admiral Cervers. There are contributions from Mrs. Briscoe, Mrs. Barr, Mr. Brander Matthews, Mr. Zogbaum and others; Mr. Howells's novel, "The Silver Wedding Journey," is continued, and other familiar friends aid in interesting the readers.

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT FALSE.

Signal Officer at Santiago Did Not Confirm the Report of John Sherman's Death. Washington, March 22. - The announcement by the Associated Press vesterday in a tele-gram dated Santiago that the "Signal Office confirms the report of the death of John Sherman, former Secretary of State" has met with a positive denial of the responsibility for the report from the Signal Officer at Santiago. This denial was received to-night by Gen. A. W. Greely, Chief of the Signal Service, who this morning cabled Capt. Leigh, Signal Officer. Department of Santiago, to know to what degree the Signal Office was responsible for the reported confirmation of Mr. Sherman's death. Capt. Leigh in his reply says positively that the Signal Office's responsibility was limited to the transmission of the information from Guantanamo to Santiago. His reply, which was in eigher, was translated to-

night by Gen. Greely. It is as follows: Information came direct from French Cable Company's representative at Guantanamo. Our responsibility is limited to transmission of information "

Based on this cablegram, Gen. Greely issued the following statement:

"WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, WASHINGTON, Murch 22, 1889. To The Sun Press Association.

"Please say in your despatches of to-night that Capt. Leigh, Signal Officer, Department of Santlago, telegraphs Gen. Greely that the information regarding Mr. Sherman's death came direct from the representative of the French Cable Company at Guantanamo, and that the responsibility of the Signal Corps' operator is limited to the telegraphic transmission of the information. A. W. GREELY." The Associated Press despatch was as fol-

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, March 21.-The Signal Office confirms the report of the death of John Sherman, former Secretary of State, who was passenger on board the American line steamer Paris, now making a tour of the West steamer Paris, now making a tour of the west Indies with a party of Americans. The Paris left Baiquiri, about sixteen miles from this city, an hour ago, and is expected here every moment. No details were obtainable from the Signal Service regarding Mr. Sherman's death." Gen. Greely feels that in view of the facts the Signal Office has been misrepresented, as it did not in any way confirm the report of Mr. Sherman's death.

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Sherman's death.

Secretary Hay and other officials of the State Department are indignant over the fact that they were led to take premature action upon the report of the death of ex-Secretary Sherman yesterday by the unqualified confirmation of the report furnished by the Associated Press. Secretary Hay said this morning:

"The State Department made no announcement whatever. We received nother from the representatives of the New York Journal and New York Telegram of Secretary Sherman's death. We waited an hour or so, and at about 4 o'clock the report was apparently confirmed by the Associated Press in a despatch from Santiago announcing positively, and without qualification, that Mr. Sherman was dead. That despatch was given to the State Department by a representative of the Associated Press. The department prepared the usual notification to its representatives abroad, which was not sent, however. The White House officials informed the President. At 8:30 o'clock I received news that Secretary Sherman was alive and better."

The State Department officials not only deny sending out any official announcement of the death of ex-Secretary Sherman, but also deny that any statement was sent by the State Department to Mr. Sherman's family that he was dead.

that any statement was sent by the State De-partment to Mr. Sherman's family that he was

SECRETARY ALGER OFF FOR CUBA. Will Sail from Savannah To-Day on an Inspection Trip to Cuba and Porto Rico.

WASHINGTON, March 22.-Secretary Alger left Washington to-night at 9:20 o'clock over the Southern Railway for Savannah, Ga. where he will embark on the transport Ingalls for Havana. A telegram was sent to-day to the commander of the Ingalls to be ready to leave Savannah at 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon, when the Secretary and his party are expected to reach that port. Those who left Washington with Secretary Alger and who will be with him on his official inspection trip through Cuba and Porto Rico are the Hon. M. S. Smith of Detroit, the Secretary's business partner; the Hon. A. M. Henry of Detroit, Mr. H. G. Meredith of Detroit, Major George H. Hopkins, military aide, and Victor L. Mason. private secretary to the Secretary of War; Assistant Surgeon Munson of the army, and William Taylow and Arthur Brooks, messengers and attendants. Col. Frank K. Hecker, Quar

and attendants. Col. Frank K. Hecker, Quartermaster United States Volunteers, may join the party later at Havana.

The Ingalis will go to Havana and other points in Cuba on a regular trip, with supplies for the United States troope. She is expected to reach Havana by Sunday. Secretary Alger will pay the expenses of the party. After spending three or four days in Havana the Secretary will go by rail to Ma'angas, Cardenas. Nuevitas and Clentuegos, and thence to Ponce and San Juan. Porto Rico. The party will be absent about a month. Very important results are expected from the visit of Secretary Alger to Cuba and Porto Rico, while one of the objects of his trip is to ascertain by personal inspection the condition and needs of the troops in both islands. His main purpose is to consult with the general officers of the army on duty there as to measures that will have a direct bearing on the improvement of the general iduation and the present military government.

On his arrival at Havana he will have an ex-

the general situation and the present military government.

On his arrival at Havana he will have an extended conference with Gen. Brooke and the department commonders from every part of Cuba. There will be a general exchange of views to enable Secretary Alger to report to the President on his return the condition of affairs in the island, politically and otherwise. Particular attention will be paid by the Secretary to the question of sanitary conditions, and he will arrange for the destruction of garthroughout Cuba for the destruction of arrange and waste of all kinds that is injurious to health. At Clentuegos he will endeavor to arrange an amicable settlement of a difficulty that has arisen between the military authorities and the inhabitants over the present unsanitary method of making interments of dead bodies there.

sanifary method of making interments of dead bodies there.

One of the most important topics to be considered at the conference between Secretary Alger and the division and department commanders is a proposition to divide Cuba into three military departments instead of six, as at present. Another topic will be the establishment of a more general system of government for the Island. Under the present arrangement each military department is run on a different system, and it is desired to do away with these in favor of a centralized authority.

MERRIMAC HERO REWARDED.

Osman Diegnan Gets News at Manila That He Has a Chance for a Commission,

Washington, March 22.-Osman Diegnan, the young seaman from Iowa whose service with Hobson on the Merrimac was rewarded by Congress in the enactment of a special act permitting him to enter the Naval Academy as a cadet, arrived at Manila to-day on the transport Solace. He was assigned to the Solace while the bill for his benefit was pending, and was somewhere in Asiatic waters when it became a law. The first news that Congress had given him the opportunity of becoming a commissioned officer will reach Diegnan in a telegram sent to Admiral Bewey by Secretary Long to-day, directing that the young man be sent home to take his examination for the Naval Academy. Diegnan is 24 years old and regularly enlisted in the mival service. When he returned to the United States, after being released from prison in Santiago, with Hobson and the other Merrimac men, he paid a visit to his home in lowa, where he frustrated the osculatory intentions of all except a few of the young women of his town. ing, and was somewhere in Asiatic waters

Richard Olney for the Democratic Candi-From the Memphia Commencial Anneal.

So far as we can see the Hon. Richard Olney of Massachusetts is the only man who could lead the Democracy out of the wilderness, of course, if the financial question comes into prominence again, Mr. Olney cannot be considered at all. But if that insue is eliminated there is no man in the Democratic pary who can come so near to being elected, for Mr Olney is a positive force in American politics.

Maryland Peach Crop Heard From

From the Bultimore American.

Reports received yest-relay concerning the Mary-land peach crop contradict the early deleful predic-Reports received yest-relay concerning the Mary-land peach crop contradict the early deletal prediction. The general tener of all the reports seems to indicate that, in tead of this year's crop proving a failure, the prespect of a very fair via d is more than en ouraging.

Two Rivals in Virginia.

To the Entros of The Sun-Sir Let me introluce Toad Luke and Bube Young. Toad is a prom inent Democratic politician and Bube is a red-hot J. J. JONES.

BOCKY MOUST, Va., March 30.

BIG ELECTRIC COMPANIES AT LAW.

The Westinghouse Folk Seek to Enjoin the General Electric Company.

Suit has been begun in the Circuit Court of the United States for the northern district of New York by the Westinghouse Lieuten pany to enjoin the General Electric Company from delivering to the Edison Company phase apparatus covered by patents of

by the Westinghouse Company Ti was brought at Utica on Tuesday. panies maintain that their different their origin solely in the varied interof a contract entered into in Isaat companies providing for an explain censes. Three years ago this month panies entered into an agreement to other to use their several patents unde tions restrictive of territory and place The allegation of the Westinghames Contant is that the General Electric Court is lated the terms of this agreement ing to furnish the Edison Electric II

ing to furnish the Edison Electric Hart Company with the multiphase gas whereas the United Electric Light an Company of this city is the exclusive of the right to use this apparatus. The General Electric Company to that a different interpretation of the ment allows, it to supply these gener the Edison Company. It declares Westinghouse Commany does not don it has sold these generators to the Edis pany before. No protest was imple time by the now plaintiff company fact lends color to the report surrent street vesterday that the suit is in wedge in a coming stiff in the peace wedge in a coming suit in the p between the Westinghouse and trie companies. The plaintiff of its licensee, the United Hestel Power Company, by antag might Company place themselves in William C. Whitney's new Spaces cal concern, the New York Gas Light Heat and Power Gas cal concern, the New York Light, Heat and Power to Light. Heat and Power teams company recently absorbed the pany and with it the Manhattan Company. It has control of it tem of the Empire Subway t Mount Morris Flottie Light of trolled by the Light, itent and I and the Block Electric Light and a and the Block Electric Light and the Recent propagation. to be consolidated into the new concern lost the negotiations never came to a successful conclusion. Another Wall street report is that the Westinghouse Commany, which has the contract to equip the Third Avenue Railread with the underground troller system has failed in its endeavor to get the \$18.720.000 contract to equip the Manhattan Elevated had road with electricity.

The neglect of the Westinghouse Commany of attempt any restrictive measures against

The neglect of the Westinghouse Company to attempt any restrictive measures against the General Electric Company hitherto whea it supplied the Edison Company with the multiphase generators is given as a basis for the report that the new litigation is begun for other reasons than merely to protect the rights of the licensee. Current with the talk that the Westinghouse people had lost the Manhattan sontract was the report that the General Electric Company was practically assured of the contract.

contract was the report that the General Enetric Commany was practically assured of the
contract.

If the suft of the Westinghouse Company is
successful Mr. Whitney's commany will be unable to use the Tesla multiphase generators,
which are admitted to be the most schemadcal. It is known that the new Light, Heat and
lower Commany intends, to transmit power an
an enormous scale, and to be deprived of the
use of this apparatus will, it is said, seriously
cripple the operations of the company.

The Westinghouse Company began suit resterday in the United States Circuit Court bera
to restrain the Western Electric Commany
from making, using and selling direct-current
dynamo-electric generators, the patent for
which, it alleges, was granted to Renamin
G. Lamme in December, 1881. A preliminary
injunction is asked pending termination of
the suit. Enos M. Barton, President of the
Western company, Norman Williams, Vice,
President, Charles D. Crandall, Trensurer, and
George C. Boldt, Secretary, are made defeutants.

PECK HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. Why There Is to Be No Woman's Departs ment at the Paris Exposition

In regard to the statement that there would oc no woman's department at the Paris Exposition of 1990, Major Fred Brackett, Secretary of the United States Commission, said yester-"An effort is being made day: "An effort is being made to create the impression that Commissioner-General Pergulos not favor a woman's department at the Parls Exposition. The French authorities of the exposition decided long ago that there should not be a distinctive woman's department. This decision of the French Counties sioners places the responsibility upon them, and if any criticism is to be made they should receive it and not Commissioner-General Pergulos of the French authorities. It is unjust to charge the United States Commissioner-General with opposing a woman's department at Parls, as he does not oppose it and hever has. He is simply following the rules of the Parls Exposition Commissioners."

NEED OF FIRE ESCAPES

Collector Bidwell Urges That They Be Placed on the Appraisers' Building. WASHINGTON, March 22 .- A letter has been received at the Treasury Department placing of fire escapes on the new building of taining the Appraisers' Stores and the offices the Board of General Appraisers. The road fire escapes has been emphasized by the rea-Windsor Hotel fire. Collector Bidweil Issian that eight escapes should be provided, two each of the four sides of the building. Inasmuch as they would cost several thousand dollars, the Treasury officials say the proposition cannot be carried out at present, and it may be necessary to wait for a special appropriation by Congress. The Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department says that the Approximent's building is as nearly firegrood as Appleiding constructed in New York in recent years.

Not an Observant Man. From the Chicago Daily News.

The old man in the shaggy overvat men-ioned something about Kansas in hi-back at the Bostonian leaned over toward him and the Bostoman leaned over from Kansas ?"
Did you say you were from Kansas ?"
No; but I jest come from there.
Then I want to ask you a few questions.
How are times out that way?"

Is money plenty or tight ?" "But don't you know how the farmers are

"Is business good or had in the towns" I didn't ask anybody."
"You—you are not an observing man." sail the Bostonian.

"No. I guess not. I went out to Enter to see a widder I used to know, and to ask her??

see a widder I used to know, and to ask hor?? marry me. I got to her house at 31 occosed, at the afternoon. I asked her to have me, and she said she wouldn't, and at 329 I was on hower hack. I didn't see no crops, nor ask about a 1 times or bad. The State of Kansas may be holdin' a reglar Fourth of July over got times, or everyhody may be goin to the left house. All I know about it is that I may be fool for spendin's 60 to run arter a bases widder when I could hey married a New Hamps shire gat fur 12 shillin's!"

Mr. Schmidt's Musical Heart. From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

One of the most peculiar cases of heart lisease ever observed in local medical circles that of Andre Schmidt, aged 30, a russ of cestiding at 1435 Elm street, Cincinnation that of Andre Schmistreet, Chreimati Hear ease of such rare and interesting Phase and a case of such rare and interesting Phase and make him a much-sought-for betheter the subject, and he has, according to his which subject, and he has, according to his which is subject, and he has, according to his which is subject, and he has according to his which is the regularity of a pitals at least twenty-five times.

Schmidt is a violants of ability, he havest enjoyed considerable reputation as an arrow before having been disabled by his times trouble, which is known as "musical heart a most peculiar condition, in which the heart in rapid rhythmic succession, emitting a harmonious sound not unlike that rendered from the distant movement of a bail in a ways alley, the rumbing of the moving ball and the quick succeeding beats of the haling made his case is the accelerated action and sould his case is the accelerated action and sould his favorite acceptance of the him of the heart not being in relating the property of the surface of the himself which is power is deeply absorbed in relating the property of the heart not being in relating house of the heart not being an expectant terest.

In Unsuspected Luck. From the Chicago Dasty News,

"I have just learned." she said, within the copyride tings of asperity, "that I am the hold it girl to whom you have been engaged. Well," he suavery replied, that ought 9 make you girl."

Fashions in Alaska.

From the Lanna Lecture Cothing stores all reports of all the of Alaska business. The most new changes in the buyers warts from her the demand for furs instead of were and for lighter footgear. Moccasins are popular. Heavy blankets are unsatable.